FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 5/4/68

Transmit the following in _____ (Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____ (Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
(ATT: LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION)

562677

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (44-1609)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Relet from ERIC S. GALT, dated 9/26/67, to Modern Photo Bookstore.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau, attention Latent Fingerprint Section, are the following:

1. Letter dated 4/29/68 to ERIC S. GALT from Modern Photo Bookstore.

2. Coupon, undated, from ERIC S. GALT, to Modern Photo Bookstore.

3. Letter dated 9/26/67 from ERIC S. GALT.

For information of receiving offices, the Knoxville Office advised NY by teletype, 5/3/68, as follows:

ENCLOSURE

(4) - Bureau (Encs. 3) RM
(1- Latent Fingerprint Section)
1 - Birmingham
1 - Memphis
1 - Knoxville
1 - New York
JFS/kpp
(9)

REC 99 44-38861-3039

10 MAY 6 1968

C. C. - Bishop

SPECIMENS DETACHED IN LFPS

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

FUG. SUP.

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[redacted] Chattanooga, Tenn. this date advised SA [redacted] that he has been informed by a postal inspector in Birmingham, Alabama that a letter is in possession of the postal inspectors there addressed to ERIC S. GAULT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, bearing a return address of Modern Photo Book Store, 166 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10010. It bears a metered postmark of 4/30/68. [redacted] telephonically contacted [redacted] Postal Inspector [redacted] New York, and informed him that he was instructing the postal inspector in Birmingham to forward this letter registered air mail to the attention of [redacted] and that [redacted] would hold the letter in the event agents wish to examine it before it was returned to the sender. [redacted] advised that since the letter was first class it could not be opened. [redacted] advised that the above information was being furnished on a highly confidential basis inasmuch as he has no authority to disclose this type of information to the FBI, and that any investigation which may be made as a result of this information must be conducted in such a manner that it cannot be attributed to its source. This information is being furnished for any investigation deemed advisable by New York."

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted] on 5/4/68 at New York:

The address 166 5th Avenue, NYC, is a mail operation for Modern Photo Bookstore, which company is actually located at 915 Broadway, NYC. Mr. SEYMOUR USLAN, President, advised that American Photo Bookstore is a division of American Photographic Book Publishing Company, Inc. (Amphoto), which is also located at the same address. The company specializes in supplying photography books.

[redacted] Order Department, Amphoto, searched her files and located a coupon clipped from Modern Photography Magazine, which coupon requested that book number 633 be sent to ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama. The coupon indicates that a money order in the amount of $8.95 was enclosed. [redacted] stated that this coupon was presumably clipped from the September, 1967 issue of Modern Photography.

Book number 633 distributed by Modern Photo Bookstore, is titled, "Focal Encyclopedia of Photography". The book jacket for this book describes it as a one-volume photographic library. It consists of 2,000 entries written by 197 experts from 23 countries and covers every aspect of photography: photographic science, industrial photography, cinematography, portraiture, equipment, history, and current activities of workers in foreign countries.

[redacted] located a letter, which is set forth in full as follows:

"9-26-67

"Dear Sir:

"I recently order a Book from your store titled FOCAL ENCYLOPEDIA-No. 633 for $8.95.

"If you have not allready mailed the book (PLEASE DO NOT MAIL IT) I am moving and will shortly send you my correct address Thanks

"Eric S. Galt:
"2608 Highland Ave
"Birmingham Alabama"

[redacted] stated that during a routine review of the company's files, it came upon the coupon and accompanying letter of ERIC S. GALT. The company did not believe that it had shipped the requested book to GALT prior to receiving his letter. As a follow-up the company wrote to GALT by letter dated 4/29/68, asking him what action he wished the company to take regarding the $8.95. The letter is set forth in full as follows:

"April 29, 1968

"Mr. Eric S. Galt
"2608 Highland Avenue
"Birmingham, Alabama

"Dear Mr. Galt:

"In going through our records we note a request of yours stating your intention to move from the above address, and to please withhold sending the book you ordered (Focal Encyclopedia $8.95) until further notice.

"Please advise us when you receive this letter as to what course of action you wish us to take so that we may clear our records. (Or have you already received the book?)

"Sincerely,

"MODERN PHOTO BOOKSTORE

[redacted]
"Order Department"

The American Photo Bookstore has received no further communications from ERIC S. GALT since his letter of 9/26/67.

The Latent Fingerprint Section is requested to examine enclosures #2 and #3 above, to determine if fingerprints of subject, JAMES EARL RAY aka Eric Starvo Galt appear thereon.

SUBJECT RAY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.